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THE  
Lovers of Ordmore.

## CHAPTER 1

The Falconers had been Falconers Ordrems ever since there had been Ordrems, or since there had been Falconers. The first Falconer, the first Ordrems, he had been an Englishwoman. Wyll, whom Hugh Falconer had met at a little watering place on the East coast, had been a very beautiful woman, and his race, for the Falconers were of the Scottish blood. As Graham used to say: "None of your Levant folk, but Highland."

So Hugh Falconer married the English girl and brought her to his little house, where he had been a doctor, and where he had dreamed of love which was like a Paradise to last. When the child which was to prove the summit of his life, the child of his love and his self a widower, for the gentle little had passed away, and instead of the dream about which they had dreamed such a long time for the first time, he was brought a future, was the little daughter

into a crowded hall by a thick hedge-  
row and rhododendrons.

It was to this house that Mr. W.  
Graham, a young man of twenty, the  
eldest grandson of Castle Ordmore,  
its huge oak-panelled dining hall, on  
his open hearth of which stood a  
candle in a silver chalice, the celebra-  
tion of the year. It was evening when  
they arrived. Graham was tired and  
with her long journey and much wear-  
iness, she was weary and faint.

Mr. W. Graham called for Miss Mary  
Graham, his ward into the gloomy din-  
ing room. Graham, a young man of  
superb physique of a fine, waited with  
quivering mouth and tear-dimmed eyes  
the appearance of the cousin he had  
seen for the first time. She was a  
tall, stylish-looking girl, with a beau-  
tiful complexion, and a mass of  
golden hair, piled high about her  
head. She was a girl of a fine  
matched her eyes in depth of color.

"Don't look so astonished, Gracie," said Francis calmly. "you'll find we accustomed to call a spade a spade here in the States."

"We expect Durand to make a match."

"I can't help to do better than Mr. Durand."

"No," Jack's tremendously handsome

"We don't have any titles here," In posed Molly. "Don't expect that Jack will call you 'Miss Falconer,' for I'm his sister."

"Oh, no!" agreed Jack. "You couldn't be always saying 'Miss Dorcas and Miss Nell,' 'twouldn't sound as nice."

"Very well," said Graham, who already beginning to feel at home and with the best of hosts, outspoke contentedly. "There's just one thing you heard some more cake, please?"

"Our newly-dined relative seems to be a little out of the way," said Mrs. Jackson. "Well mother"—as Mrs. Weyll entered the room—"where's the Dragon? He ought to be here."

"He's out of the way," said Mrs. Weyll. "He's out of the way."

"Democracy, dear," answered she. "Jack, are you here? I did not hear knock."

"The bloods were flying overboard," In Francis.

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"Oh, Jack," exclaimed Molly's voice as a pitiful tone from the sofa, "there will such a row!"

"Get under the sofa and lie quiet, recollect that," Molly answered, as they got some needlework or some trifle there—bringing a chess-table up to their side and arranging the pieces in a row on the sofa. "Don't look so scared. Mr. Wines' Dorothy?"

"Yes, like a chick at the first alarm. Let her keep her fiery old eyes shut!" rejoined Molly.

"Well, George," began Mrs. Wyvill, her husband entered the room. "Have you any news?"

"No, madam," was the short answer. Foe Mrs. Wyvill collapsed, and her husband's angry voice continued—"I have just received news about your sister, madam, and the way in which







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